



READ 1 JOHN 1:9 DAY 1

Chances are, at some point you've told a lie. We all have. Maybe you didn't mean to do it. Maybe at the time the lie you told even felt like the truth. Maybe you lied to try to stay out of trouble. Maybe you lied to avoid being embarrassed. But the reality is, once a lie is spoken, the damage is done.

When that happens – when you make a big mistake that you can't erase – aren't you glad that God is willing to forgive? His word promises that when we admit we're wrong, when we're honest with ourselves and others about the lie we've told, he forgives us. Not once. Not twice. But every single time we seek his forgiveness. And that's not all. He will help us clean up the mess and make things right.

Find a pencil and a piece of paper. Without showing anyone else, write down a lie you remember telling. Then, spend some time praying to God, asking for His forgiveness and help to make things right. Now, take an eraser and erase what you've written as a reminder that God always forgives when we ask Him to.

## READ PROVERBS 16:13

DAY 2

When you think about a king, what image comes to mind? You probably think of someone wearing fine robes sitting on a golden throne, surrounded by loyal subjects. What if you could have five minutes in front of someone that important? You wouldn't waste that time lying or telling some made up story, would you?

Well, guess what? God is our ultimate king! When we are honest, our king is SO pround of us. God values people who speak the truth. That's because we're HIS. We are sons and daughters of the King of Kings! As his kids, we know that choosing honesty is always a wise choice that brings us closer to God.

Ask a grown up to help you get the following things – a strip of cardboard or heavy paper, aluminum foil, and some scissors. Together, use the scissors to cut a crown out of the cardboard/ paper. Then cover with aluminum foil to complete your crown. Hang it from your bedpost or bedside lamp to remind you to choose honesty and honor the one true King this week.

 $\overline{\mathbf{ASK}}$  God to help you honor Him by being honest this week.







## **READ PROVERBS 20:23**

DAY 3

Let's say you go fishing with your dad and catch a fish. It's just average in size, but the point is, you caught it without any help. But then your little brother casts his line out and reels in an even BIGGER fish. Your dad takes a picture of your fishes. Later on, when a friend sees the pic, you lie and say the bigger fish is yours. You lie because you just can't let your friends know that your little brother caught a bigger fish than you.

It's easy to tell a lie to try to prove you're cooler or faster or better than someone else. But, guess what? You don't have to be the fastest, smartest, or best to be close to God. God loves you just the way you are. And true friends will, too. Instead of lying about a big catch, just tell the truth from the beginning.

When was the last time you weighed yourself on a scale or measured your height? You've probably grown since then. See if you can find how big you were last year and measure yourself now. Thank God for making you just like you are.

 $L00K\,$  for ways to be honest so you can grow closer to God.

## READ PROVERBS 12:22

DAY 4

Lies hurt. Always. When you lie, you hurt the people around you. When you lie, you hurt YOU. And when you lie, you separate yourself from a holy, perfect God. Dishonest words and actions put more and more distance between us and our God who loves us. Just like dishonesty hurts our relationships with the people around us, it also damages our relationship with God.

But it doesn't have to be that way. We can make a different choice. A BETTER choice. Even though honesty might seem hard in the moment. And we might be afraid of getting in trouble. Honesty is always the BETTER choice. And honesty always pleases God. He will give you the strength to be truthful.

Unscramble the words from the word bank below to complete the verse.

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 $\boldsymbol{KNOW}$  that God loves you and will help you choose honesty.

BEING TRUTHFUL WITH GOD KEEPS YOU CLOSE TO HIM.



